

operations tend to stress and exacerbate the limitations of mixed-nationality operations resulting from the usually significant cultural, language, doctrine, and training differences among the participating national contingents. While only U.S. logistics forces were placed under UN operational control during UNOSOM II, the unanimous view of U.S. commanders interviewed by the committee during its review of the Somalia operation was that UN mixed-nationality command chains are inappropriate for demanding UN operations.

Therefore, the committee recommends a provision (sec. 1201) that would regulate the circumstances under which the President could commit U.S. forces under UN command or control. This provision would require that before U.S. forces may be deployed under the command or operational control of the UN, the President must first certify to the Congress that (1) such a command arrangement is necessary to protect U.S. national security interests, (2) the commander of the U.S. force involved will retain the right to report independently to U.S. military authorities and to decline to comply with orders judged to be illegal, militarily imprudent or beyond the mandate of the U.S. mission, (3) the U.S. force involved will remain under U.S. administrative command, and (4) the U.S. will retain the authority to withdraw the U.S. force involved and take action it considers necessary to protect this force if it is engaged.

While this provision seeks to ensure that any deployment of U.S. forces under UN command or control is made with a clear and unambiguous understanding of the right of the United States to withdraw those forces at any time and to take any action considered necessary to protect such forces, the committee recognizes that any such decision to withdraw deployed U.S. forces should be made with due regard and consideration for the safety of U.S. and other national contingents deployed in any such given operation.

The provision would further require the President to submit a report along with the aforementioned certification providing: (1) a description of the national security interests that require such a command arrangement, (2) the mission of the U.S. forces involved, (3) the expected size and composition of the U.S. forces involved, (4) the incremental cost to the U.S. of participation in the operation, (5) the precise command and control relationship between the U.S. forces and the United Nations command structure, (6) the precise command and control relationship between the U.S. forces involved and the U.S. unified commander for the region in which the forces will be operating, (7) the extent to which the U.S. forces involved will be relying on non-U.S. forces for self protection, and (8) the timetable for the complete withdrawal of the U.S. forces involved.

Mr. Speaker consider this Time magazine title "Is Bosnia Worth Dying For?" and these few excerpts from this cover story, of November 27, 1995.

Is the soldier on the cover SP4 Andrew F. Hawley; just another faceless U.S. soldier—No.

1 of 25,000 or 20,000 "American" troops to be sent to Bosnia under "Bill Clinton" foreign policy

He could easily be another Randy Shugart or Gary Gordon, soldiers who gave their lives in Somalia

He could be another "Specialist" Michael New who refuses to serve under U.N. command or U.N. uniform

He could be your husband, or your brother, or your son, going to a place far away to risk

his life, not in "peacekeeping" but combat, where we have no vital national security interests, no specific military objectives, and no clear exit strategy.

What are we going to do about it?

The House has passed binding legislation, cosponsored by myself and JOEL HEFLEY of Colorado to prevent any funds from being spent on such a troop deployment until authorized by Congress.

Our national Security Committee has also passed binding legislation by myself and JOHN DOOLITTLE of California that would strictly limit U.N. command of United States troops, which resulted in the death of 19 United States soldiers in Somalia.

But where's the Senate? No binding Bosnia deployment bill. No binding language on U.N. command. We need your help America. Let the Senate know that we do not want troops deployed to Bosnia, at least until the President has made his case to Congress, and we certainly do not want our troops under U.N. command at any time.

COALITION BUDGET IS THE PLACE TO BEGIN NEGOTIATING FOR A BALANCED BUDGET

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. ROEMER] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. ROEMER. Mr. Speaker, about 17 minutes ago, Mr. Speaker, we passed through this body a continuing resolution that will fund Government, reopen Government, and fund it until December 15. It was very important to pass this because the American people, I think, have spoken very, very loudly through the last year and the last several years for Congress to work together; to not engage in gridlock, in posturing and political partisanship and blame games and ultimately deadlock. For us to pass, in a bipartisan way with an overwhelming vote, legislation that not only reopens Government, but establishes some parameters for us to move forward and negotiate a balanced budget agreement for the next 7 years; to achieve a balanced budget by the year 2002.

Many of us, Mr. Speaker, worked together over the course of the last few weeks, particularly late last week, to try to forge a consensus, a common-sense middle ground restart to these negotiations that seem to be stalled for a host of reasons.

Mr. Speaker, we are delighted that the parties came to an agreement over the weekend. I want to commend the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. UPTON], a Republican, who I worked very closely with in circulating a letter that was signed by 50 Republicans, and we were able to achieve 50 Democratic signatures.

The gentleman from Oklahoma [Mr. LARGENT] and the gentleman from

Michigan [Mr. STUPAK] also worked on very similar language to try to get the House to help the leadership to move forward on this bipartisan agreement.

Mr. Speaker, I would salute the President and Mr. Panetta at the White House for their hard work, and I would also salute the gentleman from Ohio, Mr. KASICH and Senator DOMENICI for their very hard work in carefully negotiating this pact over the last few days.

Mr. Speaker, the hard work is ahead of us. The hard work, once we have established these parameters to try to balance this budget in the next 7 years, is just starting. I would recommend that the starting place, Mr. Speaker, be the coalition budget, the only budget that has received bipartisan votes on this floor, where over 300 people have voted for a balanced budget plan over the last 2 months.

This plan achieves a balanced budget by the year 2002. It does it in a fair way with equitable outcomes. It says to the American people we all have to participate in the sacrifice of balancing the budget. But it also says to the politicians and the people in Washington, we are not going to pander for votes. We are not going to provide tax cuts 30 days out from an election, or to the tune of \$245 billion, that we must then cut education and farm programs to pay for. We are going to do this by balancing the budget first and then providing tax cuts later.

I think this is a reasonable, prudent, fair budget agreement, Mr. Speaker, and I would encourage this body to start with the coalition budget, which is a bipartisan budget, to move us forward in the next few weeks toward December 15, to a goal that I think 85 percent of the American people want us to achieve, and that is balancing this budget.

It is going to be a very difficult task. It is going to be a very arduous task, but if we continue to work in a bipartisan way for fairness and not devastating Medicare programs, and for opportunity where we provide for education, for student loans, and in terms of providing a father to our children, by not cutting too deeply into programs so that farm can be passed on to the next generation of young Americans.

Mr. Speaker, I think that coalition budget achieves that. I think that coalition budget is the place to start, and I think that coalition budget has the best opportunity to bring America together to make sure that we balance this budget in the next 7 years and to have fair, equitable outcomes.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. UPTON] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. UPTON addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

AMERICA HAS MUCH TO BE
THANKFUL FOR

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. FOX] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. FOX of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, at this time of Thanksgiving week have we much to be thankful for. In looking over the legislation which has been adopted by this House, we only have to look to the line-item veto, which will cut out the pork-barrel legislation that has wasted so much in prior Congresses.

We have to look just to the accountability law, sometimes called the Shays Act, which will force Congress to live under the laws that they pass for others. The prohibition of unfunded mandates. No longer will Congress be able to pass laws that, in fact, have local governments and State governments unnecessarily foot the entire bill. Now, if the Federal Government, through the House and the Senate and the President, wish the local governments to do something, the funding will have to follow.

We also passed historic legislation last week with my support, and all the other colleagues in this body. I think it was almost unanimous that we passed the House rule which will ban gifts from lobbyists. There is no way that our constituents feel that we should have gifts from lobbyists and now we have legislation which will prohibit it, and properly so.

But I am pleased to see tonight that we have the spirit of bipartisanship and we now have the President and Congress working together to achieve a balanced budget within 7 years. Under that specific language, the President and the Congress shall enact legislation in the first session of the 104th Congress to achieve a balanced budget not later than fiscal year 2002, as estimated by the Congressional Budget Office, and the President and the Congress agree that the balanced budget must protect future generations, ensure Medicare solvency, reform welfare, and provide adequate funding for Medicaid, education, agriculture, national defense, veterans, and the environment.

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It further stipulates that the balanced budget shall be estimated by the Congressional Budget Office figures. I think it is important to note, Mr. Speaker, that by balancing the budget we will help all American families by reducing mortgage costs, reducing car payments, reducing tuitions costs, and as well stabilizing health care costs.

It should also be brought out to the attention of my colleagues that the proposed Balanced Budget Act passed by the House for 1995 includes important increases from 1995 to 2002 in the following ways: The earned income tax credit will go from almost \$19.9 billion to \$25.4 billion. The School Lunch Program nationally would go up from \$6.3

billion to \$7.8 billion. Student loans would go up from \$24.5 billion to \$36.5 billion. Medicaid will go up from \$89.2 billion to \$127.3 billion. Medicare will increase from \$178.1 billion to \$289.8 billion, and veterans' benefits will go from \$36.9 billion to \$41.8 billion.

So it is a case, Mr. Speaker, of promises made, promises kept. This Congress is moving forward in a bipartisan fashion. And in the spirit of Thanksgiving, I know that each of us can do our best to remove the personalities from the issues and restore the fiscal responsibility of the country by working on policies that Republicans and Democrats can embrace together to bring about the fiscal responsibility to make sure we live within our budgets as families do, as States do, as counties do.

We can work together to make sure that the vital programs of the Federal Government must provide, because State governments and the private sector do not provide them, but do so in a way that removes the waste, fraud, and abuse. If we do that, I know we can achieve the kinds of legislation and the kinds of services the American public wants and deserves.

ON THE BALANCED BUDGET

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BARR). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California [Mr. KIM] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. KIM. Mr. Speaker, I believe today is a truly historic day. For the first time in 30 years, that is right, in 30 years, Congress finally passed a genuine balanced budget plan. For over 30 years, the American people have heard nothing but hot air and hollow promises about the balanced budget.

This is my second term. I remember hearing all the promises to balance the budget at the beginning of the year. And then at the end of the year, they always have some excuse for running a deficit. And the Government was always in the red and they were always blaming someone else, pointing the finger at each other. I knew that if I ran my business like this, I would be bankrupt a long time ago, but Government just kept printing more money and more money and adding to our national debt.

This is very dangerous for the future generation, future economic security of our Nation. Why? As a result of all these deficits, we now have a national debt of close to \$5 trillion. The interest payment alone on this debt alone is about the same as what we spend on national defense.

Let us take a look at this chart. The blue line is the train of national debt. It looks fine until about 1980, suddenly going up like crazy, totally runaway, totally out of control. This is our national debt climbing up.

One might ask what is wrong with this. When our national debt, never mind the debt itself, but interest payment is almost 20 percent of entire na-

tional budget, then we know we are in serious trouble.

If this continues, we will owe so much money to all the foreign countries, we will have nothing left. Somebody has to pay off this debt in the future. You cannot borrow something without paying back.

What we are trying to do under this balanced budget resolution is trying to bring this back, a little bit flatten, and then at the year 2002, at the end of 7th year, flatten. So we spend the exact amount we take in. We still have generated an additional \$650 billion during this process. Adding this together, we also raise our debt.

This is what they call a mean-spirited cut? I mean, gutting it. Is this cut to you? Still increase more money, spend more money, but simply a slow rate. How we are going to pay off this debt, I do not know. We will worry about that at the end of 7th year.

This is what we are trying to do is let us not accumulate any more debt. We have a serious problem. I do not know why my friends out there do not recognize the seriousness. That is why I came to Congress, to stop this runaway spending.

I know the choices will be difficult. I know the Big Government liberals would attack me and other Republicans. I know it. But we are willing to take the heat. We have the courage needed to do what is right for the country. Our job is to fix government, not make a career of being in it.

Last November we Republicans asked the American people to put us in charge of Congress and we would deliver a balanced budget. I am proud to report we did just that tonight. We passed a fair, realistic plan that will balance the budget in 7 years.

Some people have said 7 years is too short. We need 10 years. Some people said, how about 7 years too long. We should balance it within 5 years. President Clinton has repeatedly said somewhere between 6 and 9 years.

We must do it as quickly as we can and CBO score the 7 years. We can do it without hurting vital programs.

We all know that we cannot balance the budget without cutting some programs. However, there is so much waste and fraud going on, wasted duplication that we can almost balance the budget simply by eliminating waste and fraud.

Can you believe this? Consolidating some overlapping programs and streamlining bureaucracies. We have more than 5,000 programs ongoing right now. Nobody knows what program does what. All these overlapping programs must be consolidated. We can eliminate waste and fraud. We can literally balance the budget. That is what we plan to do. All we are trying to do, folks, we are trying to slow down the spending rate. By doing it, we can balance the budget.

At this time I would like to thank the American people. I would like to